DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Spring Inshore Shrimp Season Closure—Zone 3

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967, which allow the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons, R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open seasons each year for all inside waters, and a resolution adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on May 2, 1996, which authorized the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to close the 1996 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so, the secretary hereby declares:

That the 1996 Spring Inshore Shrimp Season shall be closed in all of Zone 3, that portion of Louisiana's inshore waters from the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island to the Louisiana/Texas State line, at 12:01 a.m., Saturday, July 13, 1996 (midnight Friday, July 12, 1996).

Small white shrimp have been taken in recent shrimp samples by department personnel. These small white shrimp are widely distributed throughout Zone 3 and the number of white shrimp is expected to increase substantially over the next few weeks. The closure is necessary to protect these small white shrimp so that they may grow to a larger size.

Zone 1 will remain open until further notice.

James H. Jenkins, Jr. Secretary

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